Please amend Claims 39-41 as follows:

39. (Once Amended) A grid for a battery comprising:

a network bordered by at least one frame element, one of the frame elements having a current collector lug;

the network comprising a plurality of spaced apart wire elements, each wire element having opposed ends, each opposed end being joined to one of a plurality of nodes to define a plurality of open spaces;

a lead alloy coated on substantially all surfaces of the network;

at least a portion of the wire elements having a first transverse cross-section taken at a position intermediate the opposed ends of the wire element and a second transverse cross-section taken at one of the opposed ends of the wire element.

40. (Once Amended) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the second transverse cross-section is substantially rectangular.

41. (Once Amended) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the first transverse cross-section has a shape selected from group consisting of diamond, oval, rhomboid, hexagon, and octagon.

Please add the following new Claims 42-75.

42. (New) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy.

43. (New) The grid of Claim 42 wherein the lead-tin alloy comprises about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

44. (New) The grid of Claim 43 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes antimony.

45. (New) The grid of Claim 42 wherein the lead-tin alloy comprises about 80 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

46. (New) The grid of Claim 45 wherein the coating has a melting point less than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.

47. (New) The grid of Claim 43 wherein the network comprises a lead-calcium alloy.

48. (New) The grid of Claim 47 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises about 0.06 weight percent to about 0.07 weight percent calcium.

49. (New) The grid of Claim 48 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises at least about 0.8 weight percent tin.

50. (New) The grid of Claim 49 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises about 1.2 weight percent to about 1.5 weight percent tin.

51. (New) The grid of Claim 50 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises tin in a ratio to calcium of greater than about 12:1.

52. (New) The grid of Claim 51 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises at least about 0 to about 0.02 weight percent silver.

53. (New) A grid for a battery comprising:

a network bordered by at least one frame element comprising:

a plurality of spaced apart wires having a plurality of surfaces;

a plurality of apertures stamped between the plurality of spaced apart wires;

a coating comprising a lead alloy on the plurality of surfaces of the plurality of spaced apart wires;

wherein the coating is configured to couple an active material to the network.

54. (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the plurality of spaced apart wires include a plurality of planar surfaces.

55. (New) The grid of Claim 54 wherein the plurality of apertures are defined by surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

56. (New) The grid of Claim 55 wherein the coating is disposed on the surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

57. (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy comprising about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

58. (New) The grid of Claim 57 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes antimony.

59. (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy comprising about 80 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

60. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the coating has a melting point less than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.

61. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the at least one frame element includes a current collector lug.

62. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the active material comprises a paste.

63. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the wire includes a first transverse cross-section taken at a position intermediate an end of the wire and a second transverse cross-section taken at the end of the wire.

64. (New) A grid for a battery comprising:

means for supporting an active material and having a plurality of exposed surfaces;

means for coating the means for supporting the active material;

wherein the means for coating substantially covers the plurality of exposed surfaces.

65. (New) The grid of Claim 64 wherein the means for supporting the active material comprises a network bordered by at least one frame element.

66. (New) The grid of Claim 65 wherein the means for supporting the active material comprises a plurality of spaced apart wires having a plurality of surfaces.

67. (New) The grid of Claim 66 wherein the means for supporting the active material comprises a plurality of apertures stamped between the plurality of spaced apart wires.

68. (New) The grid of Claim 67 wherein the means for coating comprises a coating comprising a lead alloy on the plurality of surfaces of the a plurality of spaced apart wires.

69. (New) The grid of Claim 68 wherein the plurality of spaced apart wires include a plurality of planar surfaces.

70. (New) The grid of Claim 69 wherein the plurality of apertures are defined by surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

71. (New) The grid of Claim 70 wherein the coating is disposed on the surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

72. (New) The grid of Claim 64 wherein means for coating comprises a lead-tin alloy comprising about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

73. (New) The grid of Claim 72 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes antimony.

74. (New) The grid of Claim 68 wherein the coating comprises about 80 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

75. (New) The grid of Claim 74 wherein the coating has a melting point less than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.